

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A *H. pylori* protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof capable of inhibiting the activation of NF- $\kappa$ B.

2. (currently amended) A *H. pylori* protein as claimed in claim 1 wherein the protein is a thioredoxin or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof.

3. (currently amended) A *H. pylori* protein as claimed in claim 1 wherein the protein has the following amino acid sequence: of SEQ ID NO: 1.

MSHYIELTEE — NFESTIKKGV — ALVDFWAPWC — GPCKMLSPVI  
DELASEYEKG — AKICKVNTDE — QEELSAKFGI — RSIPTLLETK  
DGEVVHQLVG — VQTKVALKEQ — LNKLLG

4. (currently amended) A thioredoxin or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof containing the redox active peptide sequence CGPC of SEQ ID NO: 2.

5. (original) Prokaryotic or eukaryotic thioredoxins having potent immune-suppressive effects.

6. (currently amended) Polypeptides containing the redox active peptide sequence CGPC of SEQ ID NO: 2.

*Signatures*  
7. (currently amended) A *H. pylori* protein having the following amino acid sequence: of SEQ ID NO: 1.

MSHYIELTEE NFESTIKKGV ALVDFWAPWC GPCKMLSPVI  
DELASEYEKGK AKICKVNTE QEELSAKFGI RSIPTLLFTK  
DGEVVHQLVG VQTKVALKEQ LNKLLG

8. (currently amended) A The derivative or fragment or mutant or variant of the protein of claim 7.

9. (original) Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 1 in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammation.

10. (currently amended) The use Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.

11. (currently amended) The use Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of rheumatoid/autoimmune arthritis.

12. (currently amended) The use Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of any chronic disease wherein NF- $\kappa$ B is transcriptionally activated.

13. (currently amended) The use Use as claimed in claim 11 for the prevention and/or treatment of any one or more of autoimmune arthritis or other autoimmune diseases, asthma, septic shock, lung fibrosis, glomerulonephritis, atherosclerosis or autoimmune encephalomyelitis.

*use claim*

14. (original) Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof as claimed in any preceding claim in soft tissue injury.

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15. (currently amended) A *The H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof as claimed in claim 1 for use in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any chronic disease wherein NF- $\kappa$ B is transcriptionally activated.

16. (currently amended) A *The* protein as claimed in claim 1 for use in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any chronic disease wherein NF- $\kappa$ B is transcriptionally activated.